



**VISITING PILOT INFORMATION SHEET**  
for  
**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's**  
**Wallops Flight Facility Airport**

This Visiting Pilot Information Sheet is a summary of key information from various publications on the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility (GSFC's WFF). It is issued to focus attention on several important areas for visiting pilots. Additional information is available in the *Airport Facility and Operations Handbook*. This handbook can be made available by visiting the WFF Aircraft Office web page at <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/~apb/> or to a request to the WFF Aircraft Office.

**AIRPORT** – The Wallops airport is owned and operated by NASA as a research facility. Prior Permission Requests (PPR's) to use the airport are required (24-hour advance notice) and may be obtained through key personnel at Extensions 1688, 1240, 1031, or 1403. Although standard FAA procedures are normally observed, non-standard research-related pavement markings are occasionally used. The airport and surrounding areas have numerous towers and antennas appropriately marked as obstructions to navigation. The highest tower at the airport is 241' MSL. Tethered aerostats may, on occasion, be operated at the airport under a NOTAM provision.

**FLIGHT PLAN FILING** – Flight plan filing is available with Leesburg AFSS (9-1-800-992-7433).

**CONTROL TOWER** – An FAA certified control tower operates on 126.5 MHz/394.3 MHz between the hours of 0700 and 1730, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Under special circumstances, these hours may be adjusted.

**WALLOPS UNICOM** – Wallops UNICOM is an **advisory service** which operates during non-tower hours on control tower frequencies in accordance with the AIM and FAA AC No. 90-42 (*Traffic Advisory Practices at Airports Without Operating Control Towers*). Its sole purpose is to provide advisory services and airport lighting to visiting aircraft. This service is not provided by air traffic control personnel but by contract crash, fire, and rescue (CF&R) personnel from Station No. 1 on the airfield. In addition to FAA AC No 90-42, WFF requires that at all times, **pilots advise "Wallops UNICOM" prior to taxi, takeoff, approach, and landing.**

**PATUXENT CLEARANCE DELIVERY - (RCO)** – IFR clearances may be obtained from Patuxent on 121.7 prior to takeoff. However, all IFR releases shall be obtained via Wallops Tower when the tower is manned. During periods of non-tower operations, pilots shall call Patuxent on 121.7 for IFR clearance and release. Airborne aircraft operating within the Wallops airport area that need IFR clearances should obtain their clearances through Wallops Tower. Wallops aviation safety policy requires that **pilots notify "Wallops Tower and/or UNICOM" prior to taxi and takeoff.**

**CF&R SERVICE** – CF&R services are provided continuously and may be acquired by contacting Extensions 1300 or 1507 or by calling "Wallops UNICOM" on 126.5 MHz and 394.3 MHz.

**RESTRICTED AREA 6604** – R-6604 overlies the eastern part of the airport, the adjacent marshlands, Wallops Island, and the immediate Wallops Island offshore area. When R-6604 is active, pilots must obtain clearance before entering that airspace by contacting Wallops Tower and/or Patuxent Approach.

**WALLOPS ISLAND** – Wallops Island, located 5 nm southeast of the airport, contains numerous towers and antennas (highest: 300') in addition to rocket, UAV, and balloon launching facilities. The Range Control Center, located on the Wallops Main Base, controls activities associated with Wallops Island rocket range.

**PROJECT CONTROL** – All projects conducted at Wallops, including joint NASA-military projects, are assigned range support project managers and are conducted in accordance with approved Mission Operations and Safety Directives (MOSD). Therefore, visiting project pilots must be familiar with the conditions imposed upon their flight operations by these OSD's.

In addition to the potential hazards previously stated, pilots should be aware of the following:

- 1. A very high shore bird population exists in the Wallops area and, despite an active bird reduction program, birds do present a hazard to aircraft operations on the airport and in surrounding areas.
- 2. Avoid overflight on the Assateague Wildlife Refuge below 2,000 feet (located north and east of WFF).
- 3. Deer occasionally enter the airport operating area; animal harassment devices are periodically activated.
- 4. Pilots should be alert for small aircraft along the coast that are engaged in fish-spotting or pleasure flying and those that may be engaged in crop dusting.
- 5. A ground vehicle roadway intersects runway 17/35 at a light controlled crossing location.
- 6. Due to deteriorated surface conditions, the blacktop ramp immediately west of the Control Tower is off limits.
- 7. Due to safety considerations relative to R.F. energy emissions, aircraft should exercise caution in approaching the AEGIS and Z-41 facilities on Wallops Island and the SPANDAR and FPQ-6 radars on the adjacent mainland (recommended CPA: ¼ mi.).

**KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency .....	911
Airport Manager's Office.....	1240/1031
Aircraft Office, Flight Operations.....	1031/1529
Aviation Safety Officer.....	1403
Control Tower.....	1688/1109
Crash, Fire, & Rescue (UNICOM).....	1300/1507/1508
Fueling ..... <b>NO AVGAS AVAILABLE</b> .....	1122/57-558
Health Unit.....	1266
Leesburg Automated FSS (Eastern Region FSS).....	9-1-800-992-7433
Paging, Main Base.....	55
Range Control Center.....	2242/1678
Weather Office/Recording.....	1325/2291
ASOS Recording (Automatic Surface Observation System).	757-824-0820/119.175 MHz
WFF Base Operator.....	757-824-1000
FTS Access Code.....	8

For pilots operating at the Wallops Flight Facility for the first time, contact Extensions 1240/1031/1529/1403 for a verbal briefing.

This Visiting Pilot Information Sheet supersedes and cancels prior issues.

*Original signed by*

Edward Sudendorf  
Airport Manager